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Director of Central Intelligence
Archivist of the United States
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT SMA Interference in Mecklenburg Politics

DIST. 8 July 1947

ORIGIN

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SUPPLEMENT

50X1-HUM

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1. The SMA of Land Mecklenburg requires all prominent persons, prior to delivering a speech, to submit the exact text to the propaganda department for approval. In most cases, speakers are prohibited from commenting directly on speeches of foreign politicians which oppose Russian interests; they may, however, comment on certain non-controversial aspects of these speeches.
2. All resolutions presented to the Landtag must first be submitted to the SMA. Depending upon the matter and the importance of the subject, the motion will either be discussed with representatives of the sponsoring party, or its withdrawal will be recommended. The two democratic parties are continuously encountering difficulties. The following is a typical example: The CDU wing submitted a recommendation that returning PWs be given ration card III. In line with the prescribed procedure, the initiative was first submitted to the SMA, with the result that the CDU leader Joehren was summoned before the SMA and given to understand that the resolution should be withdrawn before it reached the Landtag. not one of the resolutions submitted to the Landtag by the democratic parties had been adopted up to 20 April 1947.
3. Officers of the SMA regularly attend the meetings of the Land and Kreis committees of the democratic parties. Although these officers do not interfere with the meetings, it is obvious that they are present for the purpose of keeping an eye on what is going on. Usually they make no comments, although almost all of these officers know German well.
4. The SED delegation recently proposed that the name of "Land Mecklenburg-Vorpommern" be changed to "Land Mecklenburg". The other parties objected and wanted the old name retained, pointing out that this change would offend the Pomeranians. When the SED recommendation seemed certain to fail, the SMA of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern intervened and insisted that the legal designation be changed to Mecklenburg, referring to a "law of the occupation powers" of July 1945. As a result the proposal was adopted.

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